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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/802,184 | 03/17/2004 | Katsumasa Yoshii | 9281-4777 | 3862 |
| 7590 | 10/16/2006 | | | |
| Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione P.O. Box 10395 Chicago, IL 60610 | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | | |
| DUDEK, JAMES A | | | | |
| ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER | | |
| 2871 | | | | |

DATE MAILED: 10/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/802,184

Applicant(s)

YOSHII ET AL.

Examiner

James A. Dudek

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/02/06.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 14-16 and 18-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 5-13 and 17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 17/03/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 14-16, and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent US006380995B1 (995) in view of US 6798473 B2, US 6522377 B2, US 6917393 B2, US 6873382 B2, US 7046315 B2, US 6872586 B2, US 6831718 B2, US 6762082 B2, US 6727964 B2, US 6697138 B2, US 6717638 B1, US 6693697 B2 and US 6191835 B1.

Per claims 1, 3, 6 and 14, 995 teaches a transfective film which is formed between a liquid crystal display panel and an illuminating device for illuminating the liquid crystal display panel from the backside of the liquid crystal display panel [22] and in which a plurality of fine concave or convex portions is formed one surface thereof [24] and openings for transmitting light are formed at positions corresponding to pixels of the liquid crystal display panel [33], wherein an interval between at least one side of each of the openings and the edge of each of the pixels is smaller than the width of one concave or convex portion [figures 2-5 show the openings as being shorter than a concave/convex portion, furthermore the first three paragraph of column 4 support the figures].

Lacking is the light shielding walls and the color filters. However light shielding walls and color filters were well known as evidenced by US 6798473 B2, US 6522377 B2, US 6917393 B2, US 6873382 B2, US 7046315 B2, US 6872586 B2, US 6831718 B2, US 6762082 B2, US 6727964 B2, US 6697138 B2, US 6717638 B1, US 6693697 B2 and US 6191835 B1. Each teaches color filter and shielding walls formed on various parts of the cells. *Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of invention to combine the well known shielding walls and color filters for improved contrast and color fidelity as evidenced by US 6798473 B2, US 6522377 B2, US 6917393 B2, US 6873382 B2, US 7046315 B2, US*

6872586 B2, US 6831718 B2, US 6762082 B2, US 6727964 B2, US 6697138 B2, US 6717638 B1, US 6693697 B2 and US 6191835 B1.

Per claim 2, 995 teaches the transflective film according to claim 1, but lacks the interval is set in the range of 0.1 to 5.0 microns. However, it was well known to form the concave/convex intervals having a length of 0.1-5.0 microns in order to improve dispersion of the reflected light. Accordingly it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of invention to combine the well-known interval with 421.

Per claims 4 and 15, 995 lack the light shielding layer formed on the transflective layer. However, it was well known to use light shielding layers to improve contrast. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention.

Per claim 16, 995 lacks the color filter for above both the openings and reflective regions. However, it was well known to use color filter for producing color images. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-13 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

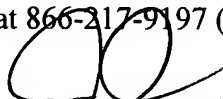
Arguments are moot due to the new ground of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Dudek whose telephone number is 571-272-2290. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on 571-272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



James A. Dudek
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2871